

Innovations for Schools, Youth, Neighborhoods and Communities



Annual Report FY 01



A joint project of the City of Hampton
and Hampton City Schools



"The foundation of every
state is the education of
its youth."

-Diogenes

Vision

Hampton's youth will thrive in supportive interconnected neighborhoods and schools.

Mission

In-SYNC builds neighborhood-based partnerships that maximize and mobilize family and community resources to promote strong schools and youth success.

Goals

Our primary goals are to create strong neighborhood schools and promote success for all youth.



Our name says it all!

In-SYNC Partnerships is a joint project of Hampton City Schools and the City of Hampton. In-SYNC Partnerships promotes innovation and assists individuals and organizations to synchronize the services they provide to schools, youth, neighborhoods, and communities. The staff of In-SYNC Partnerships works to:

- Find sustainable resources to support individuals and organizations that provide neighborhood-level services to youth and families.
- Create a network of quality relationships, in a neighborhood community, between organizations and individuals who care about youth and schools.
- Promote and sustain high quality neighborhood-based programs that serve young people.

By doing these three things, we are building the foundation for strong schools & youth success.



Relationships



Partnerships

The power of In-SYNC Partnerships comes from relationships. In our partnership network we have over 40 organizations working together to help make Hampton the most livable city in Virginia. When an organization joins the partnership, we create a customized memorandum of agreement document tailored to support the goals and outcomes of the agency. In-SYNC Partnerships supports each member of our network successfully reaching their agencies goals so they can work with others and help us create strong schools and promote success for young people in Hampton.



Training

Training is critical to ensure successful youth. Each of our partners has a wealth of experience. In-SYNC Partnerships, in cooperation with the Volunteer Center of the Hampton and Newport News, has developed a joint training calendar to try to better coordinate training efforts. You can access this calendar at www.tvcnnva.org and we encourage everyone to take advantage of the calendar and post any training opportunities. In-SYNC staff also offers some customized training in the areas of program development, mentors, and tutors.



Quality

All young people deserve access to high quality programs. Research is our guide to the best programs and practices for youth, schools, and neighborhoods. In-SYNC has identified the characteristics of a superior program and helps to translate them into reality for youth, schools, and neighborhoods in Hampton. Each of our partners strives to achieve excellence in their area of expertise. In-SYNC Partnerships use the following State and National Standards guides to program quality:

1. The Virginia Standards of Learning helps us identify excellence in academic achievement and School Success.
2. The Developmental Assets is our guide to positive youth development.
3. The National School-Age Care Alliance (NSACA) and the School-Age Child Care Project of Wellesley College Center are our markers of quality in our school-age child care program

We use these standards to design our Neighborhood Center after-school program evaluations. Our goal for the 2001/02 school year is to seek national accreditation for our after-school sites. We also summarize the relevant results from evaluations used by the City of Hampton and Hampton City Schools and use these summaries to continuously improve our program offerings.



Technical Support

In-SYNC Partnerships offers ongoing technical support for all aspects of best practice in after-school programming and Neighborhood Center development. We offer both written materials, such as operating manuals, and in-person consultative support. Through the many programs within our network, we can provide a wide variety of technical support, on a local, state, and national level, in most areas of social and civic concern.

Resources



In-kind

Our primary resource is in-kind donations. Just by doing day-to-day work, each of our partners is creating strong schools and supporting youth success. We are planning on completing a detailed accounting of in-kind service by the Spring of 2002. Some examples help illustrate the power of working together and how in-kind can take many different forms.

A Common Language - The Developmental Assets Campaign

The Hampton Coalition for Youth has been actively engaged in a broad-based campaign promoting the 40 Developmental Assets. In-SYNC Partnerships has been an active partner with the Coalition since the start of the Assets Campaign and has contributed staff time and office resources to help infuse the asset language in all of our partners' programs and activities. By sharing resources and a language of youth success each organization's work is more effective and, more important, young people reap the benefit of organizations working with them to build success.

Shared Space/Shared Goals - Community Technology Centers

Newtown Learning Center wanted to become a Community Technology Center for both youth and seniors. Newtown had computers maintained by Hampton City Schools and young people willing to help teach classes. What Newtown lacked was an instructor for their summer program who could work with senior citizens. KIDTECH received a grant from the Hampton Roads Partnership to create Community Technology Centers and bridge the digital divide. KIDTECH had the expertise and volunteers willing to help for a small stipend. In-SYNC Partnerships had funds for stipends and helped to put all the parts together to create a successful summer computer program for seniors.

Linking Parts and Pieces - School Safety

Hampton City Schools made school safety a priority activity for the 2001/2002 school year. At the same time, The Center for Child and Family Services had developed an effective bully proofing curriculum, the SAVY Program, but lacked funding to bring the program to scale. In-SYNC Partnerships facilitated a virtual meeting of the Schools and the Center out of which Hampton City Schools agreed to donate space and logistical support and the Center for Child and Family Services agreed to write a proposal to the United Way of the Virginia Peninsula who had funds available for innovative start-up programs. The SAVY Program was funded and will be operational in 3 middle schools and 10 elementary schools during the 2001/02 school year.



Volunteers

One of our most important resources is adults who are willing to mentor young people. In the past year:

- 180 adults volunteered to work in the Reading 2000 Lunch Buddies program. Over 5000 hours of reading and mentoring supports our efforts to ensure youth success.
- Each of the Fire Stations in Hampton has adopted an elementary school and Fire and Rescue staff served as mentors for the young people at those schools.

- 15 AmeriCorps volunteers served as tutors for young people in after-school programs. We are restructuring our tutoring efforts to work closely with the Hampton University Leadership Program, Christopher Newport University Presidents Leadership program, and Thomas Nelson Community College.

Our goal for the 2001/02 school year is to expand our volunteer programs into the business community.



Grant writing

In-SYNC Partnerships creates positive relationships. We believe that critical resources will freely flow once we build healthy relationships between organizations; therefore, relationships serve as the basis for all grant writing efforts. We provide three types of grant writing support:

1. Helping other organizations write grants by providing technical support, networking and partnership opportunities, and by writing letters of support as a representative of both the City of Hampton and Hampton City Schools.
2. Partnering to write grants and co-authoring proposals.
3. Writing proposals to fund partnership efforts.

For the past three years, we have focused most of our efforts on large comprehensive Federal and State grants. We will continue these efforts but plan to refocus to pursue smaller foundations proposals to fund targeted parts of the Partnership efforts, such as mentoring. We are always interested in pursuing funding opportunities that supports good inter-organizational relationships and fosters a willingness to work together to accomplish the goals of youth success and strong schools. Proposals submitted for the 2000/2001 School Year include:

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Technology Opportunity Programs
- Virginia Business Education Partnership
- Community Outreach and Partnership Center
- W.K. Kellogg Foundation
- Community Development Block Grant
- Community Technology Centers

Neighborhood Centers



Aspire After-School Academies - The A+ Program

Innovative and exciting after-school programs represent an unprecedented and unrealized opportunity to:

1. Reinforce school success.
2. Build Developmental Assets.
3. Offer enrichment opportunities.
4. Support working parents and reduce the number of latch key children.

Hampton's experience with after-school programs for the past three years indicates that an affordable after-school program, that offers enrichment, educational, and safe after-school care for all children who need it, can be self supporting and sustainable. Our goal is to move beyond an inert child care environment and construct a learning environment that will challenge and enthrall children. The A+ Project – Aspire After-school Academies is changing the landscape of after-school offerings in Hampton by creating innovative and invigorating experiences that enchant both parents and youth. The following is a list of sites where we currently offer after-school programs. Neighborhood Centers are noted in bold.

- **Aberdeen Elementary**
- Barron Elementary
- **Bassette Elementary**
- Booker Elementary
- Bryan Elementary
- Burbank Elementary
- Cooper Elementary
- Eaton Middle
- Forrest Elementary
- Kraft Elementary
- Lee Elementary
- Machen Elementary
- Mallory Elementary
- Merrimack Elementary
- **Newtown Learning Center**
- Tarrant Elementary
- Tucker-Capps Elementary
- **Tyler Elementary/ Salina Street Neighborhood**
- **Y.H. Thomas Community Center**

We anticipate adding Lincoln Park and North Phoebus Community Centers as well as one or two more schools in the 2001/02 school year.



Enrichment and Education – Life Long Learning

Life long learning is In-SYNC Partnerships' goal for all neighborhood residents. The Partnership believes that education is a key to Hampton being the most Livable City in Virginia. Our goal is to instill a love of learning and to have both students and residents aspire to great achievements. Success in Hampton City Schools is a primary goal for youth. Aspire After-school Programs are design to be fun and interesting.

Our educational programs reinforce school skills but do not to replicate school day programs. These programs reinforce areas that students have interests in and/or need some additional support in order to master. Enrichment activities for all ages support academic success and the quality of life in a neighborhood. We offer enrichment activities for both children and adults in our Neighborhood Centers. A partial list of courses we plan to offer in 2002 includes:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ✓ Computer Club | ✓ Dominoes & Chess for | ✓ Karate |
| ✓ Creative | Champions | ✓ Gymnastics/Tumbling |
| ✓ Movement/Dance | ✓ Math Magic | ✓ Globe Trotters Club |
| ✓ Desktop Publishing | ✓ Boys to Men | ✓ Book Bag Club |
| ✓ Entrepreneurs Club | ✓ Sci-Fi Club | ✓ Swimming |
| ✓ Get Fit | ✓ Adventure Club | |
| ✓ Babysitters Club | ✓ Sew Simple | |



Neighborhood Leadership

Our after-school programs are the genesis of the comprehensive Neighborhood Center program. We require neighborhood leadership and input to assure that all programming at Centers meets the needs and interests of the local community. If a community would like to start a Neighborhood Center In-SYNC can provide:

1. Contacts for site management.
2. National program guidelines to insure quality.
3. Partnerships with other local community agencies and subcontracts with those agencies to provide services.
4. Quality after-school care available to all children by using a scholarship model.
5. Research and grant writing that promotes partnerships and sustainability.

The Basics



Financial Support

In-SYNC Partnerships receives funding from the City of Hampton Neighborhood Office and Hampton City Schools. The funding is divided into almost equal parts from City, School, and Federal sources. The total project budget is \$348,263.



Staff

Michael Canty – Director of Resource Development
Linda Craig – Director of Program Development
Tammy Matthews – Director of Volunteer Services



Members

Our network members bring life to the partnership. Our partners cover the full spectrum of organizations, from faith-based groups to museums, who work together to make Hampton the most Livable City in Virginia. The following organizations are members of the In-SYNC network:

The City of Hampton Neighborhood Office
Hampton City Schools
Hampton Department of Parks & Recreation
The Hampton Coalition for Youth
The City of Hampton Employee Council -
Hampton Reads Program
Hampton Division of Fire and Rescue
Hampton Police Department
Hampton Public Work –Environmental
Services Department
Hampton Healthy Family Partnership
Hampton Public Library
Hampton Department of Social Services
Hampton Health Department
Hampton Redevelopment and Housing
Authority
KIDTECH
The Center for Child and Family Services
The Volunteer Center of the Virginia Peninsula

Peninsula READS - The Peninsula Reading
Council
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Peninsula Inc.
Alternatives Inc.
GIRLS Inc.
The Boys and Girls Club of the Greater
Peninsula
Achievable Dream Hampton
Foster Grand Parents
The Marching Elites
Christopher Newport University President's
Leadership Program
Hampton University President's Leadership
Program
Hampton University School of Architecture
Hampton University Department of
Computer Science
Hampton University Museum
Virginia Air and Space Center

Thomas Nelson Community College
Virginia Cooperative Extension/4-H
The Community Services Board of Hampton
and Newport News
Organizational Diagnostics Inc.
Y. H. Thomas Community Center
The Newtown Learning Center
Hampton Adult Education
Bradford Hall Charter School
Office of Human Affairs- Head Start
The Association of Retarded Citizens
The Virginia School for the Deaf Blind and
Multi-Handicapped
Queen Street Baptist Church – Beacon at the
Cross Roads
New Life Community Development
Corporation
The United Way of the Virginia Peninsula
The Bernadine Franciscan Sisters Foundation



10 Successes for the 2000/2001 School Year

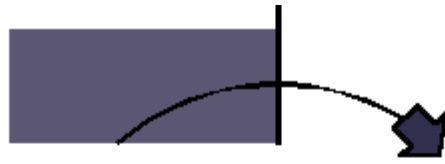
The following is a list of our ten proudest accomplishments for the 2000/2001 school year:

1. Over 200 young people participated on a daily basis in free after-school programs held at our five Neighborhood Centers (CDBG funded).
2. Over 335 young people were registered in the twelve paid after-school programs run by Parks and Recreation. These programs are located in eight elementary schools and one middle school.
3. Expanded the number of volunteers by 50% - Over 200 individuals volunteered in schools and centers. Volunteers gave at least one hour per week. A small group volunteered between twenty and forty hours per week. All made this investment to help insure the success of our young people.
4. New resources were secured to support strong schools and youth success, with a special effort aimed at volunteer resources. This past year, In-SYNC developed formal relationships with Hampton University Museum, the School of Architecture, the Department of Computer Science, and the Leadership Program. We also have a strong partnership with KIDTECH operating two Community Technology Centers – Newtown Learning Center and Salina Street Neighborhood Center at Tyler Elementary School.
5. Offered five training programs for after-school staff and community providers.
6. Facilitated a process with The United Way of the Virginia Peninsula, The Bernadine Franciscan Sisters Foundation, and the Peninsula Non-Profit network to develop a framework for leveraging resources.
7. Continued financial support for innovative pilot programs such as Bryan Family Literacy program that support parents of young children completing their High School degree.
8. Formed the Neighborhood Center Initiative Team (NCIT) to align government services that support after-school programs and neighborhood centers.
9. Staff support and leadership for both the International Children's Festival (for families with children in elementary school) and the Child Fair (for families with young children).
10. Developed the framework for the Aspire After-School Academies – The A+ Program and initiated a pilot program in three schools for the 2001/2002 school year. This process included writing a handbook for high quality educational and enrichment programs.

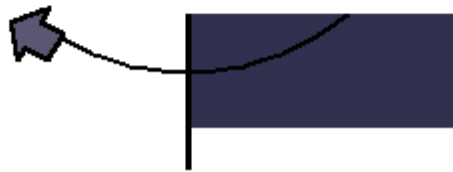


"Community is not a
universe, nor a world, nor
a nation. It is a group you
know in a place you know."

-Michael S. Joyce



In-SYNC Partnerships



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